

additive for said acetyl salicylic acid and wherein the ointment does not contain water for dissolving said acetyl salicylic acid,

wherein when the base is hydrocarbon gel or a mixture of hydrocarbon gel and petrolatum, the acetyl salicylic acid is in a range of 20 to 30% by weight per total weight, and wherein when the base is petrolatum, the acetyl salicylic acid is in a range of 25 to 30% by weight per total weight.

Please add the following new claims:

--26. (NEW) A method of treating a malady with an anti-pyretic to a person in need thereof comprising topically applying an ointment consisting of acetyl salicylic acid in the range of about 0.001 to 30% by weight per total weight and a base selected from the group consisting of hydrocarbon gel, petrolatum and a mixture thereof without any other additive for said acetyl salicylic acid and wherein the ointment does not contain water for dissolving said acetyl salicylic acid.--

--27. (NEW) A method of treating neuralgia with an ointment to a person in need thereof, said method comprising topically applying said ointment consisting of acetyl salicylic acid in the range of about 0.001 to 30% by weight per total weight and a base selected

from the group consisting of hydrocarbon gel, petrolatum and a mixture thereof without any other additive for said acetyl salicylic acid and wherein the ointment does not contain water for dissolving said acetyl salicylic acid.--

